

**PREPAREDNESS OF INDIA'S UNION TERRITORIES TOWARDS
NATIONALLY DETERMINED CONTRIBUTIONS: COMPARING DELHI
AND CHANDIGARH**

VAAGISHA YADAV

*A project report submitted
in partial fulfillment of the requirement for the award of the degree of*

MASTER OF ARTS
IN
GENERAL ECONOMICS



MAY 2025

MADRAS SCHOOL OF ECONOMICS

600025

ABSTRACT

One of the most alarming challenges at a global level in today's scenario is climate change, which in turn affects human health through increased temperatures leading to global warming, recurring extreme weather conditions like floods, heatwaves, etc. Taking under consideration the threats posed by changes in climatic conditions, The Paris Agreement, a legally binding international treaty on climate change was formed on December 12, 2015, at the UN Climate Change Conference in Paris. It was adopted by 196 parties including India and came into force on November 4, 2016.

This study aims to critically analyze and compare how concerns related to the health sector are addressed within the SAPCCs of Delhi and Chandigarh, assessing their alignment with India's NDCs and identifying gaps in climate-health strategies. By evaluating implementation, framework of policies, and institutional mechanisms, we have tried to form a conclusion about which city would be better suited for living and investment in the near future.

National Family Health Survey Round 4 and 5 (NFHS-IV AND NFHS-V) datasets collected through multi-round surveys at a large scale in India cover variables related to health, population etc. We have primarily focused on variables like respiratory issues and hospital visits in the last three months by men, women, and children for our analysis. The results show that Chandigarh seems to be a better city for long-term sustainable investments in green innovation, health and wellness, with greater governance control in comparison to Delhi, which turns out to be an attraction point for scale-intensive economic investment. The investments would bear fruit in future only if urgent policies and reforms to tackle climate vulnerability and environmental stress are implemented.

Keywords: Respiratory issues, air pollution, emissions, congestion, health impacts, climate change.